

**REMARKS**

By this Amendment, claims 7, 17, 25 and 29 have been amended, and claim 28 has been canceled. No claims have been added. Accordingly, claims 7-11, 17-27 and 29-32 are now pending.

The present Amendment is intended to place the subject application in condition for allowance. In the latest Office action, independent claims 11 and 32 were allowed, and claims 20 and 28-31 were objected to. Independent claims 7 and 25 were rejected in view of the prior art.

By this amendment, independent claim 7 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of former claim 28. Former claim 28 has been canceled, and claim 29 has been amended to depend from claim 7. In view of these amendments, Applicant respectfully submits that independent claim 7, and claims 8-10, 17-24 and 29-31 which depend therefrom, should be allowed.

Additionally, the latest Office action noted – In connection with the allowance of claim 32 – that the prior art fails to teach an electric motor having a fan and a baffle with the baffle including a central opening and *a lip with a curved convex surface surrounding the central opening of the baffle*. See page 7 of the latest Office action. Independent claim 25 has been amended herein to recite this allowable subject matter. Specifically, amended claim 25 now recites the baffle as having “a lip surrounding the central opening, the lip having a curved convex surface.” In view of this amendment, Applicant respectfully submits that amended claim 25, and claims 26 and 27 which depend therefrom, should be allowed.

Dependent claim 17 has also been amended to correct the antecedent basis problem noted by the Examiner.


In view of the above, Applicant respectfully submits that the subject application is now in condition for allowance.

#### CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action and the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (314) 726-7500.

Respectfully submitted,

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